

Ethiopian accord expected

ATLANTA (R) — Peace negotiators from Ethiopia and its rebel foes are likely to agree by Monday to hold further talks on ending their country's 22-year war, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said Saturday. "We have already begun to address successfully so far some very difficult issues. I don't really see a major obstacle now," Carter, who is hosting the landmark negotiations between the antagonists, told reporters. "Until we complete the talks which I hope will be tomorrow or Monday we will not announce detailed step-by-step agreements that have been reached," he added. The negotiations, only the second face-to-face meeting between rebels of the Ethiopian People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and Ethiopia in a decade, are a first step towards halting a brutal war in Ethiopia's northern province of Eritrea. The conflict, Africa's longest civil war, has killed hundreds of thousands of people. Carter and some analysts put the toll at a million — forced more than 800,000 others to flee as refugees and crippled the economy of impoverished Ethiopia.

Volume 14 Number 4183

AMMAN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1989, SAFAR 9, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Jordan Times

An independent English political daily published by the Jordan Times Foundation

جordan Times Foundation

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN
SERIALS

Iran claims progress in talks

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Saturday negotiations at the summit of the Non-Aligned Movement in Belgrade concerning the stalled Gulf war peace talks went better than Iran had expected. Tehran Radio quoted Velayati as saying "what was agreed in relation to the Iran-Iraq peace talks in the closing draft of the summit is far more balanced than what was first predicted." The radio said that Velayati's comments were made on his return to Tehran from Belgrade, where the non-aligned summit closed Friday. The English-language Tehran Times meanwhile said in an editorial Saturday that "some progress appears to have been made... in the Iran-Iraq conflict, which has now come to be viewed in a more realistic way," the Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The Agency quoted the editorial as saying "We believe the Non-Aligned Movement has now given the U.N. chief some extra bullet in trying to wind up these negotiations in a manner that will give satisfaction to both parties in the conflict." The same newspaper earlier this week said that "there seems to be no chance for a breakthrough in the stalled talks."



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives South Yemeni leader Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas upon his arrival here on a state visit (Petra photo)

Peking seeks to advance Middle East peace efforts

By Nermene Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Chinese Foreign Minister Chien Chi-Chen visits Jordan in the third week of this month as part of a Middle East tour which will also take him to Egypt, Syria and Tunisia. During the visit he is expected to discuss developments in the international arena as well as in the Middle East and bilateral ties.

According to Huang Guo Quan, chargé d'affaires at the embassy of the People's Republic of China, the minister will seek "ways of pushing the wheel of the peace process in the Middle East."

China has been actively supportive of Arab causes and a strong advocate of Palestinian rights, and, as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, has endorsed the Arab call for an international peace conference on the Middle East to settle the 41-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict. Peking was among the first non-Arab states to recognise the State of Palestine declared by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in November last year.

"We want to fulfill our responsibility by aiding efforts to solve

the Middle East problem and reach a just and peaceful solution," Huang told the Jordan Times Saturday.

China, Huang said, believes that the Palestinian issue "has reached a historically crucial stage" and that the only hurdle now to reaching a just and peaceful solution is "Israel's position."

He added that China "does not accept Israel's expansionist and aggressive policy; and we advise Israel to grasp the opportunity extended to it by Arab countries, including the Palestinians, to solve the problem through diplomatic and peaceful means."

Huang said that China feels that "the international situation has developed towards settlement of regional conflicts."

China has not established diplomatic ties with Israel, but maintains "public relations."

We exchange scientists... Israelis have attended international conferences in Peking and vice-versa," Huang said.

But, he added, China has explained to Israel that diplomatic ties between the two countries are contingent on Israel's position towards the Middle East and the Palestinian issue.

The Chinese minister's visit to

the Middle East is seen by the international media as a "good-will" visit after Peking faced increased diplomatic isolation following its crackdown on pro-democracy protesters at the capital's central, central Tiananmen Square June 3. But, Huang said, the visit was scheduled as far back as six months.

Trade relations

Although the Chinese delegation, scheduled to arrive on Sept. 16, will be predominantly diplomatic, the foreign minister will meet with a number of Jordanian officials during his three-day official visit and will discuss with them ways of "balancing trade ties to accommodate Jordan in view of the current economic situation of the country."

China is the fourth largest importer of Jordanian phosphates, and trade between the two sides reached a record \$80 million in 1989.

According to Huang, trade between the two countries has increased dramatically since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1978, and China "has contributed to the economic development of Jordan by executing a

number of production projects in the Kingdom."

Huang said he believed the Chinese minister's visit to the Kingdom will "boost bilateral ties in new fields of cooperation including trade and industry."

He said that in view of Jordan's "new economic situation," China will be looking for "ways to increase the cooperation during these difficult times."

According to Huang, trade cooperation between Jordan and China "has not been stable, which has created a problem." He said China would try to study this problem and "discuss ways of solving it."

The Chinese minister will meet with the Jordanian ministers of trade and industry, energy and mineral resources, and planning as well as the foreign minister.

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Middle East News

Iraq calls for PoW swap beginning with children

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iraq's government has called for an immediate exchange of prisoners of war with Iraq, beginning with children and the sick, injured and disabled seized during the eight-year war.

Under Baghdad's proposal, the longest-held PoWs would be exchanged next, followed by all remaining prisoners. About 100,000 prisoners languish in camps as their governments wrangle over the terms of release.

The child PoWs, said Iraq, were sent into battle "to detonate mines with their bodies" so the Iranian army could invade in safety.

Iraq said Iran refused Baghdad's earlier offer to return the children "on the pretext that they were not Iranians."

Most of the former child PoWs are now over 18 and many are more than 20 years old, it said.

Baghdad's offer, contained in a letter from Iraq's U.N. mission, proposes the PoW exchange "in isolation from the political nego-

tiations" that followed the ceasefire, which began Aug. 20, 1988.

Iraq previously rejected such a step, saying the PoW issue must be dealt with under Security Council Resolution 598, which demanded the true and detailed a peace plan.

Tehran insists that the next step called for by the resolution is the withdrawal of troops to the border. Iraq still occupies about 385 square miles (1,000 square kilometres) of Iranian territory.

The letter from Iraq's U.N. mission also said the International Committee of the Red Cross has informed Baghdad more than 7,000 Iraqi PoWs have disappeared from Iranian prison camps, and their whereabouts are unknown.

The Iraqi letter rebutted Ira-

nian allegations that the child PoWs had been beaten by Iraqi guards at a special school at Iraq's Ramadi Camp, run by the Swiss charity Terre Des Hommes.

The Iranian allegations, made in a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar sent on Aug. 22, relied on an interview with the former head of the school, Ian Brown, published in the London Independent on July 22.

Iraq's letter said Brown and his predecessor had been expelled from Iraq for complaining about the mistreatment.

Iraq's letter replied that Brown left the country voluntarily after most of the children were transferred to adult camps when they reached age 20, and his predecessor had been expelled for interfering in Iraqi affairs. It did not specify the nature of the interference.

The letter said Iraq guards did not pressure the children to attend school but were "encouraging" their attendance.

Rabin warns against granting visa to Arafat to address U.N.

WASHINGTON (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has warned the United States against granting PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat a visa so he could address the United Nations this year.

"If that happens, it would be very grave," Rabin said, speaking to reporters after an hour-long meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Arafat has not yet sought a visa and U.S. officials say no decision has been made on how to handle such a request.

Rabin said he objected in par-

ticular to an endorsement by Arafat's Fatah group, the leading faction in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), of increasing armed struggle by Palestinians against Israel.

"Israel would see it (the granting of a visa) very gravely especially after the Fatah convention," he said.

Rabin also held separate talks with Defence Secretary Dick Cheney and with National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft during a six-hour visit to Washington.

Rabin also downplayed con-

cerns about rocket attacks launched from Jordan, saying he was certain authorities in Amman would put an end to them.

Rabin theorised that the rockets may have been launched by "Palestinian terrorists" who felt they could no longer operate out of war-torn Lebanon.

"He's sure the Jordanians will take care of it and are not going to allow the opening of another front against Israel," said a spokeswoman for the Israeli embassy in Washington who translated answers given by Rabin in Hebrew.

Shots that save lives in the making for Sudanese

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Wheels are in motion for a massive immunisation campaign for millions of children early next year in war-ravaged Sudan where a six-year-old civil conflict has defied continued efforts for peace.

Both the military government of Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Bashir and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have responded positively and were very supportive of a proposal by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to observe three months of "tranquility" to allow for the immunisation of children, especially in southern Sudan, according to Richard Reid, UNICEF's regional director.

"Both the government and the SPLA consider themselves as representatives of their people and thus having a degree of accountability," Reid explains what he sees as the motivation, apart from "humane considerations," behind the two sides' positive response. International image also played a part in their decision to cooperate and assist the campaign. "Apart from beating each other on the battlefield, they feel they must do everything they can to avert the terrible disaster of last year's 'death season' (when at least 250,000 people died of starvation)," he said. Image had something to do with it.

The UNICEF official noted that there had been no serious civil war fighting in south Sudan since May and that concerted moves were under way for peace negotiations between the military government and the SPLA. There are strong indications that

both sides wanted peace after having borne the brunt of intense international criticism over the plight of the Sudanese trapped in the fighting and exposed to natural disasters without receiving much help, according to Reid.

The government of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, who was overthrown by Bashir June 30 in a military coup, and the SPLA as well as the U.N. took a terrible beating last year in the international press for failing to do anything to avert the tragedy. The deaths occurred at the height of fighting between government forces and the rebels.

Poor immunisation record

Of all the 21 countries in the Arab World, Sudan has the lowest percentage of immunised children. The immunisation level in the country's north, mostly government-controlled territory, including Khartoum, the capital, is 40 per cent to 45 per cent, one of the higher percentages in Sudan — compared with Jordan's 90 to 95 per cent and the regional average of 65 per cent. About 30 per cent of under-five-year-olds in the northern regions, which account for three-fourths of the population, have been immunised, according to UNICEF statistics. In the south, which accounts for approximately one-fourth of the population, the immunisation level is zero.

"Sudan is by far at the bottom of the table for immunisation against vaccine-preventable killer diseases," said Reid, UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa. "Thousands of children could die in the absence of protection against measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio, tuberculosis and tetanus."

Measles, "the monster killer of children," claims two million children around the world every year, Reid pointed out. In one Sudanese town of 50,000, measles killed 3,000 to 4,000 children in a sudden sweep during last year's "death season," he said. Taking into consideration the tremendous threat posed by measles, UNICEF will add a special emphasis on the disease during the Sudan campaign, Reid added.

"There will not be any 'death season' this year," Reid asserts. "We already have prepositioned over 100,000 tonnes of food and supplies in key place to avoid it." Another 20,000 tonnes are needed to fully address the problem as assessed by UNICEF, which is now seeking between \$20 million and \$25 million to finance to complete the project, aptly named "Operation Lifeline." The relatively high cost of relief in Sudan is mainly attributed to the war which warranted airlifts rather than overland transport of supplies. In some cases, a tonne cost as much as \$900 in transport expenses.

The logistical problems that face UNICEF in Sudan are staggering, not to mention the human resources on the organisers to

diseases posed by the civil war, but Reid is confident that the immunisation campaign will succeed.

"On the U.N. side, we never worried about ceasefires because for functional purposes we have had all the support and protection we needed," he said.

It is obvious that UNICEF was further encouraged to chart its immunisation campaign by the success of its "Operation Lifeline," under which the pre-positioning of supplies was carried out with the assistance of both parties involved in the civil war. The Malid government and SPLA also protected the convoys while passing through their territories.

All out involvement

UNICEF is targeting about two and a half million Sudanese children in its immunisation drive, which will involve every sector of the population, including the military, government organisations, obo-governmental local and foreign agencies, religious and tribal leaders and even football stars.

The teams will probably have one week each in January, February and March where total freedom of movement will be given to administer the vaccination. The three months are necessary because the vaccine is given over a three-month period.

In all countries, there has been a fairly high drop-out rate in the second and third rounds of immunisation. "In Sudan we will try to pull off a miracle and have everyone come back for the second and third rounds," Reid said. "We want to make it a civic, moral and ethical duty."

Reid also said that there was a responsibility on the organisers to

ensure the efficiency of the campaign. "We can't lift these people up and then have their hopes dashed through delays and inefficiency. Then they won't come back."

For instance, "we cannot afford to keep mothers and children waiting in the sun for hours for their turn," he explained.

If properly organised, Reid stressed, "immunisation has an instant effect like cutting grass. It can cut 10-12 points of your IMR (infant mortality rate) like an elevator that is out of control. Turkey did that."

Radio and television are two main elements of UNICEF campaigns elsewhere in the world. In Lebanon, they served as the major channel to inform people of the need for inoculation and details of where it was available during the country's national campaign in 1987 when the warring parties agreed to certain "days of tranquillity" to facilitate the process. UNICEF doubts whether its Lebanon project would have been successful had it not been for the effective messages the countless Lebanese television and radio stations repeatedly carried, exhorting everyone to take their children "for a different kind of shot — this time from syringes, not from machine guns."

Added "incentive"

But in Sudan, the usefulness of radio and television is very limited; a major part of southern Sudan, the main UNICEF target area, does not have power supply, not to mention "luxuries" like radio or television. The sheer geographic nature of Sudan, the biggest country in Africa, and its remotely scattered population centres preempt hopes for any justifiable response to any call through the media. So, word has to be carried in person to many remote parts of the country. That's where UNICEF is playing its masterstroke.

"We have coupled the child immunisation campaign with a programme to vaccinate cattle," a beaming Reid said. "For many Sudanese cattle means everything — their way of life, income and economy — and they are too well aware of the threats of cattle diseases like rinderpest. All we have to do is to spread word that we are administering cattle vaccination as well as child immunisation and most cattle-owners will come flying" with their children included in the bargain of course.

The estimated cost of the Sudan campaign is about \$22 million; almost \$10 per child.

In most other countries, the per capita cost for protection against the six major diseases is about \$5 but the poor infrastructure and transport system and difficult access to remote areas double the cost in Sudan, according to Reid.

The cost of the project — a good part of it invisible because of voluntary services and usage of contributions in kind (planes, vehicles etc) — will be covered by UNICEF, supported by donors such as Italy, the United States and Canada.

One of the main components of UNICEF confidence of success in Sudan is the almost self-less service offered by the country's health workers. "What we have in Sudan is a lot of people of almost angelic moral stature," commented Reid. "Health workers go on working for months without pay, carrying on heroically, solitarily to help the people. With such people around, we are confident that we will succeed."

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1989

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Baker meets envoy to Beirut

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has met with the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon who was evacuated from the Beirut embassy Wednesday, the State Department said. Baker and Ambassador John McCarthy discussed the situation in Lebanon, but department statement did not elaborate on their conversation. McCarthy presented Baker with the American flag that flew over the embassy in Beirut until Tuesday and asked Baker to hold the flag "until it was time to return it to the embassy," the statement said. McCarthy and 29 other embassy staff were airlifted out of Beirut Wednesday morning after Falangist leader Michel Aoun made threats against Americans and orchestrated anti-American protests. The State Department insists the closing of the embassy is temporary and was motivated by security concerns for the staff. It stressed that the United States is not abandoning Lebanon.

Sidon shuts down to protest killings

SIDON (R) — Two Sunni Muslim militiamen were shot dead in the southern Lebanon port of Sidon overnight, security sources said Saturday. They said unidentified attackers opened fire from a speeding car around midnight Friday at members of the Popular Liberation Army who control the city. The men, who died instantly, were identified as Hisham Beblawi and his bodyguard Hassan Dimawi. Shops, banks and other institutions in Sidon were closed Saturday after the militia called a strike in protest at the killings.

Egypt, Tunisia abolish visa requirements

TUNIS (R) — Egypt and Tunisia abolished visa requirements for Egyptian and Tunisian citizens with effect from Saturday, a joint communiqué said. The communiqué, released Friday night after short visit to Tunis by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, said the prime ministers of the two countries would chair a meeting of the joint cooperation commission in the next few weeks. Mubarak and Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali said they supported the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories and the Arab League committee set up to mediate in the Lebanese conflict, it added. Mubarak invited Ben Ali to Egypt but no date has been set.

Two bombs explode in north Nicosia

NICOSIA (R) — Two bombs exploded on the breakaway Turkish side of the divided Cypriot capital early Saturday, Turkish-Cypriot sources said. The sources said the bombs went off within minutes of each other near a lorry and at a car showroom causing extensive damage but no casualties. No one has so far claimed responsibility. Police are investigating but a political motive appears unlikely, the sources added.

Castro greets Cuban troops from Ethiopia

HAVANA (R) — President Fidel Castro Saturday greeted the first Cuban troops returning from Ethiopia since his government's announcement two days ago that it would remove all its forces from the East African country. A plane carrying 100 military personnel, including about a dozen nurses, touched down at a military airport on the outskirts of Havana. Cuba's ambassador to Addis Ababa, Antonio Perez, said Friday there were fewer than 3,000 Cuban troops in Ethiopia. In 1984 the Cuban government said it was reducing its forces in Ethiopia from 10,500 to 3,000 men.

S. Yemen, U.S. may have diplomatic ties

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — President Heider Al Attas of South Yemen says his country might exchange diplomatic relations with the United States by the end of the month, the Asharq Al Awsat daily has reported. Attas was quoted as saying in an interview that the move was expected to follow mediation by a third party, which he did not name. The interview was conducted in Belgrade where the Yemeni leader was attending a Non-Aligned Movement summit that ended Thursday. "Contacts are under way and we hope for palpable progress soon," Attas said. Asked if these would result in direct talks, Attas replied: "they will." Asked if diplomatic relations would then be restored with Washington, he said: "Yes, and probably before the end of the current month." South Yemen severed relations with Washington in 1969, two years after it gained independence from Britain and leftists won control of the country.

U.S. envoy meets deposed Afghan king

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has sent a special envoy to the former king of Afghanistan to discuss a possible political settlement of the Afghan civil war, an administration official said Friday night. The king, Zahir Shah, has been living in Rome since he was deposed in a 1973 coup — led by his cousin, Mohammad Daoud — that abolished the monarchy and established the republic of Afghanistan. Daoud was killed in a 1978 coup that installed a Communist government, backed by the Soviet Union.

Amal militia thwarts raid on Israel

TYRE (R) — A pro-Syrian Shi'ite Muslim militia has said it had dismantled five Soviet-made rockets ready to be fired into Israel from a village in South Lebanon. A spokesman for the Amal militia said the five Katyusha rockets were found in the village of Shakra, just south of Israel's South Lebanon security zone. It was not immediately known which group had planned to fire the rockets. Control of the south is split between Amal, its pro-Iranian Shi'ite rival Hezbollah (Party of God) and Palestinian commandos. Rockets fired from South Lebanon struck Israel twice last week. An Israeli army spokesman blamed Hezbollah for one of the attacks. Amal said Tuesday it had arrested guerrillas preparing a cross-border rocket attack and confiscated seven Katyushas. It said it was preventing other groups from launching rocket attacks on Israel because of the risk of retaliation.

Market prices

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (golden) 500 / 500

Apple (red) 500 / 500

Banana 400 / 300

Banana (Mokhammar) 350 / 300

Beans 300 / 300

Bread 250 / 200

Carrot 250 / 200

Cabbage 130 / 100

Carrot 270 / 220

Corn 260 / 220

Cucumbers (large) 280 / 240

Cucumbers (small) 300 / 250

Dates 400 / 350

Eggs 200 / 100

Figs 350 / 300

Garlic 950 / 750

Grapes (green) 350 / 300

Grapes (red) 350 / 300

Grapefruit 300 / 250

Cairo 220 / 150

Alexandria 220 / 150

Damascus 220 / 150

Lemon (yellow) 280 / 220

Cabinet approves KD4m for Shidiyah project

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, convening Saturday, approved the financing of an eight-million Kuwaiti dinar loan — presented from the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development to the Jordanian government — to the Jordan Phosphate Company in order to con-

tribute to the financing of the Shidiyah Mines project. The Cabinet, also, approved the Civil Aviation Authority organisational chart for 1989 as well as the secondment of 14 female teachers to work at the United Arab Emirates' ministry of education.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

MASA'DEH RECEIVES ENVOYS: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'deh Saturday discussed with Indian Ambassador to Jordan Gajendra Singh scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Iraq. He also received Algerian Ambassador Mohammed Bergam at the conclusion of his tour of duty. (Petra)

IRBID ROAD PROJECTS: Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Environment Yousef Hamdan has agreed to offer a tender to asphalt and open roads at the Taibeh township in Irbid Governorate at the cost of JD 25,600. (Petra)

WAZANI RECEIVES TWO ENVOYS: Justice Minister Ratib Wazani Saturday received separately Indian Ambassador Gajendra Singh and Algerian Ambassador Mohammed Bergam. The discussions dealt with bolstering relations in the judicial fields. (Petra)

YEMENI MINISTER, CAEU CHIEF HOLD TALKS: South Yemeni Minister of Trade and Industry and Supply Abdillah Othman had a meeting here Saturday with Mr. Hassan Ibrahim, secretary general of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) to review the council's economic activities and the 1989 programmes. Othman and Ibrahim discussed action designed to bring about economic integration in the Arab World and the role played by individual Arab countries to achieve that end. (Petra)

HOTEL GETS NEW PERSONNEL MANAGER: As part of the staff development programme at Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental, Ms. Maher Elias, a Jordanian national, has been promoted to the position of personnel and training manager. Elias has been working at Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental since 1981 when she started as guest relations supervisor. Therefore, she was promoted to guest relations manager, where her talents were developed in dealing with people. (J.T.)

MEDICAL DAY IN IRBID: The Jordan Medical Association Saturday organised a medical day in Irbid, in northern Jordan. Several specialists and surgeons from Jordan delivered lectures on various medical specialisations. (Petra)

TRAINING SEMINAR: The Jordanian Institute of Management affiliated to the Industrial Development Bank Saturday opened a week-long training seminar on decision-making in matters related to administration and finance in financial, scientific and industrial organisations. Participants from Jordan, Oman and North Yemen are taking part in the training seminar. (Petra)

SCHOOL SUPERVISORS MEET: The Department of Education in Irbid Saturday organised a meeting for supervisors of education in government schools. Difficulties encountered by teachers and school principals and the role of the supervisors to help overcome them were reviewed by the supervisors and ministry officials. (Petra)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN THE SOUTH: The Ministry of Youth announced Saturday that its teams have just completed a survey of sports and youth activities in the southern regions of the country. The survey, which entailed field trips to various areas last week, aims at introducing measures for improvement and the involvement of a greater sector of youth in such activities. (Petra)

TRAINING AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS: The agricultural sector committee in the Amman Development Region issued a statement Saturday recommending that training in agricultural regional fields at universities and community colleges should be revised and updated. A statement said that the committee proposed the opening of new training centres to provide new techniques to agricultural engineers and technicians and agricultural extension staff. (Petra)

VIDEO TAPES TO OMAN: Yarmouk University has provided the Ministry of Education in Oman with 60 video tapes featuring educational programmes prepared for Arab students in Arab countries. The gift was in the course of Jordan-Omani educational cooperation programme. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

- * An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Khaled Ghawaneh and Abdulrahman Kamal, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Misri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- * An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Jahlil Oreqat at the Plastic Artists Association.
- * An anti-smoking exhibition which includes paintings and posters showing the harmful effects of smoking, at Philadelphia Hotel.

LECTURE

- * A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Revolt of 1936 versus the Uprising of 1987" by Dr. Yousef Halkai at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

FILM

- * A feature film entitled "The Grapes of Wrath" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

PETRA CULTURAL FESTIVAL

(The opening ceremony at 4:00 p.m.)

EXHIBITION

- * Handicrafts exhibition, which includes sculptures, embroidery, sand ornaments and woodwork, at the Tourism Square.
- * The National Heritage Exhibition, which includes khatib, textiles and simple agricultural tools used locally, at the Tourism Square.
- * The Archaeological Treasures of the Sahara Exhibitions inside the old city of Petra.
- * A photo exhibition on Petra inside the old city of Petra.
- * The Armed Forces Exhibition, including photos and posters depicting the armed forces development.
- * A comprehensive art exhibition, held by the University of Jordan, includes paintings, photos and sculptures at the Visitors' Centre.
- * An exhibition of oriental artifacts and folkloric costumes at the Tourism Square.

PARADE

- * A parade of Arabian horses and a caravan of camels (as part of the opening ceremony).

FOLKLORIC SHOWS

- * Folkloric songs and dances by: Wadi Mousa Centre Troupe, Al Badouli Troupe, Ma'an Troupe for Folkloric Arts and a show by the Armed Forces Brass Band. In the evening at 8:30 p.m.)

Folkloric shows by Wadi Mousa Centre Troupe, Al Mafraq Youth Centre Troupe and Al Qasr Young Women's Centre Troupe, as well as Radio Jordan orchestra.



Jordanian and Syrian officials meet Saturday to discuss transport cooperation (Petra photo)

JVA may use River Jordan water for setting up fisheries

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) is currently studying the prospect of using the water of the River Jordan to set up fisheries in unused land in the Jordan Valley region according to JVA Secretary General Mohammad Bani Hani.

In a statement to Sawt Al Shaab daily, Bani Hani said that at the same time his department is monitoring the amount of pollution in the river water brought about in some areas by extensive use on the part of the Israeli occupation authorities at a number of Israeli settlements.

The River Jordan water is also being tested regularly for its salinity which is gradually increasing due to Israel's continued pumping of water from the river and the Sea of Galilee, Bani Hani noted.

He said that one of the rivers which flow into the Sea of Galilee is the Yarmouk River which is being exploited by Jordan and Syria for irrigation and electricity generation.

The coming month he will witness the completion of a diversion tunnel at the site where Al Wahdeh Dam is to be built, Bani Hani pointed out.

He noted that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has pledged to provide a grant of

\$150 million to the project and the World Bank promised to give loans to help carry out the scheme.

Under a Syrian-Jordanian agreement most of the 225 million cubic metres expected to be gathered at the reservoir will be used for irrigating Jordanian farmland in the Jordan Valley, Bani Hani said. But nearly 75 per cent of the total generated electric power will go to Syria, he added.

Bani Hani complained that some farmers are doing all they can to obtain additional water amounts in addition to their allotted shares, and warned that the JVA has limited water resources for irrigating lands in the Jordan Valley.

The river is being diverted so that construction work on the dam itself can begin, Bani Hani noted.

The construction of the diversion tunnel is being carried out by a consortium of Jordanian-Syrian and Italian companies at the cost of JD 2.5 million.

Jordan has already embarked on contacts with international organisations and governments in sound out their readiness to finance the \$400 million dam project, Bani Hani said.

He noted that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has pledged to provide a grant of

Last year reservoirs behind dams built to collect water in Jordan gathered around 23 million cubic metres of rain water but the previous year a total of 75 million cubic metres were collected and used in irrigation purposes.

The limited amounts of water,

he said, can only force the JVA to

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

Established 1973

جordan Times جريدة عربية مستقلة تصدر باللغة العربية في الأردن

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

An international anecdote to drugs

THE ALLOUT war now being waged against drugs is one of the holiest of all wars ever. The initiative to launch such an attack to root out the drug scourge is being spearheaded by the U.S. in conjunction with some Latin American countries notably Colombia, and scores of other states in the four corners of the world. There is no doubt that this decision to take the bull by the horns will go a long way to check the mushrooming drug curse worldwide.

Nevertheless, the only decisive way to stem the burgeoning drug problem is to put an effective end to the widespread usage of drugs. As long as there is a demand for drugs no effort will be enough to eradicate their source. In fact, if the demand for drugs continues abated, the battle at the source level will only exacerbate the issue and heighten the criminal dimensions of its conduits from the source to the user and customer. Accordingly, for the battle against the drug crisis to be won, there is always a need to wage it at both ends of the problem: the source as well as the user levels. It goes without saying that if and when the customer side of the equation can be eradicated then the source problem would have been dealt with automatically.

Of course to stop the public drug habit is a big order and would necessitate a multi-dimensional approach. In essence, the root problem is socio-economic, culminating in a psychological framework that defies easy answers. The decline of religion and spiritual pursuits, the decline of morality and the breakdown of family life have all accelerated the drug phenomenon in the industrial nations of the world. Poverty and deprivation, both political and educational, have on the other hands been the principal reasons for the widespread resort to drugs in poor countries of the world. The tragedy lies in the fact that once a nation, rich or poor, becomes addicted to the disease, the tools available to reverse the tide become doubly difficult. All these and similar proposition would warrant one to suggest the convening of an international conference to be attended by imminent personalities and experts in the phenomenon of drug abuse with a view to defining and articulating affective multi-disciplinary anecdotes to the rise of this scourge worldwide. While allowing that it is not an orthodox policy to call on the U.N. Security Council to become seized with this kind of threat to security and peace, it would still be the right thing to do to put the machinery of the Security Council in the service of this global war effort to eradicate the drug crisis from the face of the Earth.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper Saturday welcomed a visit to Jordan this week by the President of South Yemen who will have talks with King Hussein on matters of mutual concern and Arab affairs. The paper said that the talks reflect the two countries' concern to boost inter-Arab cooperation at all levels and enhance the joint action for the common causes, and to safeguard the higher national interests. The South Yemeni leaders will no doubt discover more things about Jordan which stands like a fortress in the face of enemy ambitions and designs, and as a shield providing protection to the Arab Nation from external threats, the paper noted. The South Yemeni president will see for himself that Jordan remains committed to the defence of the Arab Nation and to working with serious determination to bolster inter-Arab action and solidarity among Arab states, the paper added. We have confidence, said the paper, that the president's visit to Jordan will contribute most positively towards enhancing Jordanian-Yemeni relations and help provide further protection to the Arab order in the face of all hostile challenges.

Writing in Al Ra'i Arabic daily columnist Abdul Rahim Omar draws attention to the deep gap between the rich industrialized nations and the poor world. He says that this can clearly be felt after reading the Non-Aligned Movement's final communiqué in Belgrade which referred to numerous world issues and pointed to further economic problems in the coming future. The writer says that the Third World which includes most of the non-aligned countries is bound to fall prey once more to foreign domination or a new form of colonialism. The growing foreign debt and the abject poverty in some of the non-aligned nations make it only possible for the rich industrialized nations to find the way open for imposing domination, says the writer. He notes that since the Third World continues to sell cheap raw material to the rich countries and buy manufactured products at very high cost, the poor are bound to succumb to the conditions and terms of the rich. Omar believes that as long as this cycle is in progress the rich are bound to become richer and the poor poorer unless the leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement can come up with a way to end this unacceptable situation.

Al Dastour daily Saturday tackled the situation in the occupied territories as the intifada enters its 22nd month. Day after day and month after another, the Palestinians prove to the world that they are determined to pursue the struggle for freedom and independence, said that paper. The thousands of killed, injured and detained Palestinians and the scores of deported citizens can only point to the atrocities committed by the Israeli enemy but will not deter further uprising and further resistance, the paper added. As the Israelis invent new methods of terrorism and repression, the world continues to condemn such action with words and sympathy, but the Palestinians confront all that with real action, said the paper. However, the criminal actions against the Palestinians should prompt the world community at large to translate words into action to end the occupation, concluded the paper.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Advanced warning of economic crisis

AFTER the unraveling of the economic crisis late in 1982, many silent observers suddenly became outspoken and wise retroactively, others were blaming public opinion makers and watchdogs, like myself, for failure to give advance warning against the crisis.

Being away this week, and to avoid the absence of Sunday's Economic Pulse today, I shall present to you what I have written in this very place six years ago, i.e., in the Jordan Times of Dec. 31, 1983:

"The so called recession or slow-down in the Jordanian economy should not be mistaken for the traditional recessions known in all industrial economies in the Western world."

The economic recession in America or Western Europe is a stage in their business cycle, and is normally followed by economic recovery and prosperity and so on. The economic slow-down here in Jordan is not a stage or part of a cycle, and consequently should not be tackled as such by traditional means such as hiking public spending, expanding credit, reducing interest rates, and encouraging private consumption.

On the contrary the present recession in the Jordanian economy is the direct result of the drop in Arab financial support to the treasury, which rendered the government unable to

continue its planned development and social programmes, including heavy expenditure and direct or indirect subsidy of most economic activities.

Jordan used to receive some JD 400 million (\$1.25 billion) in external grants and financial aid from richer Arab countries. This was a huge annual cash injection in foreign exchange responsible for around 40 per cent of the gross national product, even without accounting for the multiplier effect. In 1983 the in-flow of these funds declined below that level. It is only normal that national income should decline accordingly.

More reduction in Arab aid is anticipated in 1984 and beyond. Therefore the slowdown in the flow of income, standards of living, volume of investments, and government capability to support and subsidise both consumption and production cannot be avoided.

The Jordanian economy is witnessing a healthy adjustment to the new sobering realities which call for a completely new set of policies and serious efforts to adapt to them.

It is, however, counter-productive to address the present economic state of affairs as if it is a passing crisis or a phenomenon that is almost behind us, or a cloud about to clear.

The situation does not call for monetary and financial expansion, and for tempting the government to fill the gap by more internal and external borrowing which will prevent the imports from decreasing and thus putting the country's foreign reserves in jeopardy.

The correct diagnosis of the structural problem resulting from the drop in Arab aid is essential in order to cut down the government expenditure to size, and to protect the foreign reserves and control any deficit in the balance of payment.

Arab aid to Jordan, or the lack of it, is not a budgetary problem only; it is a balance of payment problem as well.

The worst position that can be taken is to use the present adequate foreign reserves merely to postpone the necessary adjustments for a year or two instead of proceeding to adjust in a comfortable and secure situation.

There is no possibility that we can avoid a reduction in imports, consumption and government expenditure, and at the same time maintaining a real growth in production for export or for import substitutes.

The proper economic, financial and monetary policies, and measures, may not be popular, but they must be adopted nevertheless, and the sooner the better."

By Dr. Fadih Farak

Conciliatory tone at non-aligned summit

By Patrick Worsnip
Reuters

BELGRADE — The Belgrade summit of the Non-Aligned Movement appears to have marked a turning point for the Third World grouping by dropping its former anti-Western stance for a more conciliatory tone.

Despite a last stand by the radicals, key moderate states like Yugoslavia, Egypt and India persuaded the majority that, with superpowers improving, it was time for them to seek cooperation with the West to remedy their dire economic plight.

Cyrus President George Vassilios hailed the summit as "the beginning of a new era for the movement," allowing it to adapt to a changing world.

"The work done here, we

hope, will make certain that the movement does not fall behind history," he told a news conference.

For years the Soviet Union argued that the non-aligned group, though militarily neutral, was naturally allied in all other respects with the Communist world. Cuban leader Fidel Castro, who hosted a non-aligned summit in 1979, endorsed this view.

As recently as the last summit, in Harare in 1986, the final declaration thundered against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, hegemonism... racism, zionism... as well as against great power and bloc politics."

This year's declaration makes only a passing reference to this struggle and implies that it was a thing of the past.

But Western diplomats following the summit said such voices were isolated, and that host coun-

try Yugoslavia had succeeded in stamping the meeting with a pragmatic tone that would win the 102-nation grouping a better hearing in Western capitals.

"The non-aligned have been moderate for some time, but now they are getting more understanding in the West because they are just putting themselves across in a much more intelligent way," one said.

Behind the shift of tone lay a growing feeling that with the reduction of tensions between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, the non-aligned group, founded in 1961 to fend off involvement in bloc politics, could be left high and dry.

"What will be its role if its principal raison d'être is disappearing," asked Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohammad of Malaysia.

The implicit answer, for many countries, was that the most effective thing the movement could do was to take a lead in putting the Third World case for a better economic deal from the rich industrialised nations.

Aside from Saudi Arabia and a few other oil-rich states, most non-aligned members are either under-developed or heavily indebted or both. The total debt of developing countries is estimated at \$1.3 trillion.

The summit statement appealed to the developed world to face "the conflict which is older and deeper than the cold war and bloc confrontation — the conflict between affluence and poverty."

Several plans emerged during the summit for a poor nations' club to promote their cause.

Pera reported that it had put together an 11-nation group to lobby the group of seven top industrialised non-Communist countries over debt and related issues.

Later, former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere announced that the same 11 countries plus two others would form a summit-level group to discuss economic problems and plan cooperation programmes among themselves.

Nevertheless, some of the main debtor nations in Latin America still prefer to deal bilaterally with their creditors.

And some summit speakers voiced fears that the East-West thaw could harm the Third World, leaving it an even smaller slice of the economic pie as the West prepares to bail out bankrupt Communist nations in Europe like Poland and Hungary.

preoccupations."

Recognise PLO

For de Klerk, movement of truth coming

By David Crary
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — White voters sent mixed messages to the long-ruling National Party, but one point was clear: both locally and internationally trying to please reformists and racists simultaneously.

A similar view was expressed by Alfred Nzo, secretary general of the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla movement. He said at a non-aligned summit in Yugoslavia that de Klerk "now has to prove the honesty, sincerity and seriousness" of his pledges to negotiate a solution to South Africa's problems.

De Klerk, expected to be elected next week to a five-year term as president, has called for all-party talks aimed at negotiating a new constitution. But he says the ANC can participate only if it renounces its use of violence.

Militant anti-apartheid leaders in South Africa reiterated their rejection of segregated elections and dismissed suggestions that de Klerk be given an opportunity to prove his sincerity.

"De Klerk has spoken to us, the oppressed... with tear gas, with sjamboks (whips), with water cannons... with all the repressive instruments at his government's disposal," said the South African Council of Churches. "We consider it folly to give a chance to such a regime."

In the election, the National Party won 93 seats, down from the 123 it held previously in all-party talks aimed at negotiating a new constitution. But he says the ANC can participate only if it renounces its use of violence.

But political analysts suggested the Conservative Party had little potential for further growth, in part because the parliamentary districts are due to be redrawn in a way that will reduce the power of the Conservative's rural strongholds.

The Democratic Party won 33 seats, a gain of 13, and received 20 per cent of the total vote. It won decisively in the three largest cities — Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban — where segregation laws? Will jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela be freed?

The nationalists can no longer attempt to satisfy, on both sides, those who want reform and those who want regression," the Daily News, the leading newspaper in Durban, said in an editorial Thursday. "De Klerk has the clearest mandate for real change. Will he act on it?"

Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, one of the country's most powerful black moderates, said the election marked the start of "an entirely new and very distinctive political era" in which South Africa was moving away from apartheid toward democracy.

But Buthelezi said his optimis-

the liberal opposition in parliament, said de Klerk should write off the far right and develop more concrete reform proposals.

"He's now got to produce the goods," she said. "Otherwise both locally and internationally trying to please reformists and racists simultaneously.

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But Buthelezi said his optimis-

day constitute what he believes to be a realistic approach to solving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Speaking during a recent interview in his New York office, Ben-Meir pointed to what he called "irrevocable factors on the ground," meaning realities that can no longer be ignored and that, he believes, must be defined, accepted and "institutionalised." There is no doubt in Ben-Meir's mind that the Palestinians have a right to a state of their own and that, sooner or later, like it or not, this will be established as the only way of achieving peace. "Israel cannot be eliminated, nor can the Palestinians, that is the reality. Regardless of whether Israel has the right to the West Bank from a historical perspective, Zionism will have to settle for something less. Both sides will have to be satisfied with what there is: Israel with

Features

Gold fever in the Amazon

By Jerome Koehlin

SERRA PELADA. — These days the whole world is looking at Brazil. The spectacular fires currently raging through the Amazonian rain forest, one of the world's most precious reserves of tree, animal and plant species, have become familiar topics. Lit by cattle ranchers and peasants to make way for grazing and agricultural land, the fires are rapidly destroying Brazil's 8.5 million square kilometres of Amazon jungle and are responsible for at least 7 per cent of the planet's carbon-dioxide emissions, thus contributing to the global warming of the planet known as "greenhouse effect."

Because of the predicted rapid rate of temperature rise worldwide, which some experts say will cause a dramatic sea level rise and disturbances in weather and agriculture patterns, many scientists view global warming as one of the greatest threats facing the planet.

And it seems that another disaster is looming, at least for Brazil. The rivers of the Amazon, which constitute one fifth of the world's sweet-water reserves, are being poisoned, mostly with mercury that is used by gold diggers to separate the precious metal from its ore. A gold rush similar to the madness that sent hundreds of thousands of Americans westward in the last century has seized Brazil and its neighbours: already the gold rush has attracted an estimated half a million hopefuls to the forest. Many float on barges up the networks of rivers deep into the Amazon and sift through river beds while others dig on the land. The number of pits is reported to have risen to more than 6,000 from 400 three years ago.

By far the largest is in Para State, some 3,000 kilometres northwest of Rio de Janeiro, in the infamous Serra Pelada or "Bald Mountain." A huge gash bleeds at the flank of the mountain — an enormous pit said to be one of the biggest gold mines in the world with estimated reserves of 600 tons. Depending on the season, between 40,000 and 120,000 "garimpeiros" as the gold diggers are known, sift through the mud and water incessantly, driven by the gold fever. Since the vein was discovered in 1979, officials estimate that 90 tons of gold have been removed from the mountain.

Estimates are the only figures available, because only a minute amount of the precious metal is mined legally and taxed by the treasury. According to a recent report by the environmental protection organisation "Sinal Verde," up to 90 per cent of Serra Pelada's production is smuggled out and used to launder drug money in Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and other neighbouring countries. For example, Uruguay does not produce an ounce of gold, yet it exported 29 tons of it in 1985. Two years later, the director general of Brazil's National Department of Mineral Production launched a campaign against gold smuggling: "Official production in 1986 was 10 tons. We estimate that apart from industrial production, 144 tons were produced that year," he was quoted as saying.

Hunting for gold has been a tradition in Brazil since the first ore discoveries in 1696. The garimpeiros stand as picturesque characters and are seen as a breed of their own: silent, attentive, they know how to disappear, how to cheat, and how to fight for what they want. But recently the traditional garimpeiros have been joined by hundreds of thousands of desperate peasants who migrated to the Amazon in search of a better life. Bitten by the fever, they push deep into the malaria-infested jungle in search of the precious metal.

Inhospitable

Even among the hard-boiled garimpeiros, Serra Pelada is famous for being one of the most inhospitable and dangerous of all the gold pits. Over 2,000 people have died there since 1980, according to police statistics. The only way to reach the mountain is by light aircraft. On the way there, it is easy to see the cause of the international outcry over the rape of the Amazon: fires blaze everywhere. In 1988, 8 per cent of the lush forest was reduced to black ash. Here and there, clearings reveal small gold and iron mines, witness to the penetration of man deep into the jungle. "At the beginning of the gold rush between 1980 and 1982, I used to fly up here eight times a day," comments the jovial pilot, Ival Alves, who has been flying in the Amazon for 40 years. "I bring all kinds of people up here: garimpeiros, bankers from São Paulo, American and Japanese industrialists, outlaws: all of them are bitten by the gold fever."

Suddenly there it is — a huge ugly wound 700 metres long, 300 metres wide and sinking 100



Standing tall in Brazilian folklore, most of the garimpeiros (name given to gold miners) live outside the law.

metres deep in a pit of mud. Like a swarm of flies, makeshift shacks crowd the mouth of the crater, while the pit, teeming with a hundred thousand diggers, resembles a giant ant hill.

"I was working in a diamond mine in Gabon for eight years and saw a television programme about the Serra Pelada. I immediately packed my bags and left for the Amazon," recalls a 41-year-old garimpeiro, Juvenal Leal da Silva. He arrived five years ago with U.S. \$115,000 in his pocket, and today, like many others on the bald mountain, he is what is known as "blefe" — penniless. He has only found a few grams of gold and says, "I hope God will help me" — perhaps to be as lucky as the man who in 1983 found the biggest ever nugget weighing 62.3 kilograms (he has since been murdered).

The mountain holds other riches besides gold: manganese, platinum and cobalt, but these are not exploited. "It drives American prospectors mad," da Silva says with a laugh. Gold, gold, gold... A gram is worth U.S. \$10, and 20 per cent more by the time it reaches the big Brazilian cities. But not much of it does. Dealers, adventurers and foreign businessmen who come in to buy it out and sell it untaxed on foreign markets or trade it for cocaine in "gold powder for white powder" deals.

Illegal exports

In a bid to stem illegal gold exports the authorities set up the "Serra Pelada Mixed Cooperative of Garimpeiros" (Comgap) in 1984 and gave it sole control over the mine. Gold diggers are individually affiliated to the cooperative, which sets prices and sells the gold to a private company.

Says 59-year-old Manuel Candido d'Ajuro, the head of Comgap: "The fact that the mine has been turned over to the garimpeiros and is no longer in the hands of private or para-statal companies has improved things somewhat; a director of one of these companies was once caught fleeing with his suitcases full of pure gold."

"Yet, few of the garimpeiros can even dream of a suitcase full of gold. Padding barefoot in the muddy waters of the crater, they work for 'hours' in steaming humidity, attacked by swarms of malaria-bearing mosquitoes. Acid yellow dust blown by fierce winds whips their skin and nearly all of them suffer from colds and respiratory infections as well as rheumatism and arthritis. Some 90 per cent come from the neighbouring states of Maranhao and Piaui, the others from Colombia, Venezuela and Peru. Says Antônio Vicente di Moraes, a young doctor who was parachuted into this inferno of misery four months ago: "It is very difficult to work in these conditions, there is no infrastructure, no X-ray facilities, no laboratories: it is very discouraging."

Still, the men keep digging. Everybody on the Serra remembers Moran, Pitz Lopez, who found 3 tons of gold in three years and whose body was found without a trace. "Last year, I found 1.5 kg of pure gold," says Malcolm Joseph Neto, a tall, blond 25-year-old. "I spent the whole summer in night clubs in Mexico. He explains that he now spends six months a year in the mine and the rest blowing away his money in Acapulco or Saint Tropez on the French Riviera.

Here life is a few shops and snack bars on the main street, along with several billiard halls. There are not many takers for places in the town's two schools: children start their mining career as early as 12. There are also two cinemas showing a choice of "Rambo III" and obscure second-rate movies. More often than not, they are empty as miners seek other pleasures: women and alcohol.

Women have been allowed in the town since 1986, and brothels have since flourished in which girls as young as 14 prostitute themselves. Alcoholism is rife.

"The crime rate is very high," admits Wilson F. Vasconcelos, one of the 10 federal policemen who are supposed to control the city (their tour of duty lasts a maximum of 40 days). "Theft is rampant and jealousies between garimpeiros lead to ruthless violence. Last May 4, people were murdered in one night," he adds.

Though they may have been romanticised as adventures in Brazilian literature, today the garimpeiros are unpopular, all the more so since Brazilians have become increasingly concerned with the country's ecology in recent years. According to São Paulo-based journalist and writer Mario Lorenzi, who has studied the subject closely: "The garimpeiros are the first predators of the genocide of Brazil, and they cause crime, prostitution and alcoholism. It is a very serious problem." Also at issue is the

'Go back — some day'

By John West
Special to the Jordan Times

EVERY DAY the media carry further Lebanese horror stories — senseless bombings, mass evacuation, the man who invests his life savings to buy 200 litres of water, the young girl who drown on a boat off the coast — the whole sorry picture in Lebanon is all too well known. But what of the Lebanese outside their country? The latest round of fighting since March has spurred a larger than ever exodus, as ordinary people flee militias, ideologies, leaders, truces negotiated and broken, and, grabbing what they can take with them, dash over the mountains or across the sea into exile in other Arab countries, Europe, North America, Australia, Australia — anywhere that will offer them haven.

The spirit of openness and life and freedom was not threatened by the fighting," Samar said. "Violence was a part of life but living in Lebanon was still good on balance."

Even the hardships of the civil war, with typical Lebanese resilience, had been countered with a grim black humour, often the innocent bystander's only weapon.

"My friend Aiman only had a small car — a Renault 5," Samar recalled. "There was a bombing one day and he went down to help take people to the hospital. But when he tried to push two injured into his car, there wasn't enough space — he kept shoving the head one of them further in, but the other one's feet would come out the other side of the car. It was sad but we couldn't help laughing about it."

Consul Hussein Ramal told the Jordan Times that the community in Jordan was comparatively well off "there's no unemployment here for example — any Lebanese who comes here is likely to be well-off."

Demoralised

But if the material means to life are assured, many Lebanese forced to flee their country suffer demoralisation. New arrivals feel particularly bitter about having had to leave after lasting out so long amid the chaos and violence.

"They destroy your house once or twice, that's fine," says Fadia, a young professional, "but the third time, that's too much." She left Beirut in early March, just before the current round of fighting broke out, to visit her sister here in Jordan. She brought a small suitcase with her intending to stay ten days. She has not returned.

"People have no hope any more. Since I have been here, I have come to think of the whole 14 years. We always had hope — there was fighting for months, or even a couple of years" at a time and then it died down, and then it started again and stopped and so on. You never thought of it all as one thing — when there was fighting you kept your head down and when there wasn't you got on with your life. But this time is different."

The Lebanese outside the country share the pessimism of those they left behind. Many don't see the violence as a political crisis any more, with causes and possible solutions, but as an independent mechanism with a life force of its own.

But although there are now more Lebanese outside the country than inside it, most remain strongly attached to their homeland.

"Despite everything, many of the Lebanese here sit around and talk of going back right now, even with the fighting on," says Samar, who has been here for two years. "They get bored." Visitors to Beirut before March confirm that, even after 14 years of civil war, the Lebanese had retained their flair for living.

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"At the AUB (American University of Beirut), instead of saying 'see you' when you left a friend, we would say 'stay alive,'" she added. "Every time you saw someone, even after only five minutes, you said 'al hamdu li-lah ala-salaamah'" (an Arabic phrase said after a journey, meaning "thank God you are safe").

Of course, the Lebanese have a long history of migration — large waves settled all over North and South America at the turn of the century, while traders established successful communities throughout Africa. But the latest leavers are very different from the traders and entrepreneurs of earlier times — lack of visa problems and work permits thwart them, and they often end up settling for any job they can find.

Hussein Ramal, the consul, maintains that most of the Lebanese in Jordan are ready to go back if there is a definite break in the fighting. "We are optimistic," he says. "There is no problem in the world that does not have a solution."

Some of his compatriots, however, are not so upbeat.

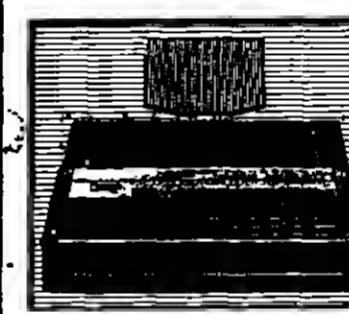
"I never thought of living outside the country before this year," says Fadia. "But if I do make up my mind to, that's it."

"Yes, I will go back," Moham-

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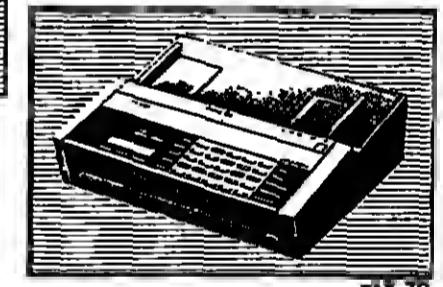


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European giants become super giants

LONDON (R) — General Electric Co. (GEC) of Britain and Siemens of West Germany said Friday they had won control of British electronics and defence equipment group Plessey after a takeover battle that began last November.

The deal creates Western Europe's biggest defence and electronics business with interests including radar, avionics, telecommunications, semiconductors and nuclear power plants.

The success of the hostile £2 billion (\$3 billion) offer was confirmed by GEC Siemens PLC, the bid vehicle created by the two companies, when it announced in mid-afternoon in London that it had 50.4 per cent of Plessey.

The bid was now wholly unconditional, said a statement from GEC Siemens' financial advisers.

London-based investment banks S.G. Warburg and J. Henry Schroder Wag.

GEC and Siemens have said the deal would clear the way for a major restructuring of Europe's electronics industry to help it compete more effectively with U.S. and Japanese companies in a global market.

The combined telecommunications equipment businesses of GEC, Plessey and Siemens will be the second-largest in the world after American Telephone and Telegraph (AT & T), overtaking French-based Alcatel.

GEC and Siemens' defence electronics businesses, including Plessey, together amount to the second-largest in Europe after France's Thomson CSF.

GEC managing director Lord Weinstock, speaking at a news conference in London a few

businesses while Siemens will wholly own Plessey's radar and defence systems divisions, including military communications and its related Australian defence activities.

In North America, GEC will have full control of Plessey's Sippican Inc. anti-submarine warfare subsidiary and Canadian defence electronic subsidiary Leigh Instruments.

Plessey Electronics Systems Corp., formerly the electronic systems division of Singer Co., will be 75 per cent owned by GEC and managed by it. Siemens will have 25 per cent.

GEC and Siemens will have a joint majority shareholding in Hoskyns PLC, the computer services firm to which Plessey holds 73 per cent.

In Bonn, West German Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann Friday said carmaker Daimler-Benz could take over the Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB) aerospace group, creating the country's biggest defence concern.

But he said the deal, slammed by critics who say the new group will dominate West Germany's defence industry and hold Bonn to ransom over weapons contracts, depended on the two firms selling off some of their activities to protect competition.

"This decision was difficult," Haussmann told a news conference. "I have no guilty conscience and I've thought about it more than any other decision in my time in office."

The ruling was greeted with dismay by the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) who said it was

a black day for West Germany's economy and made a mockery of laws promoting free competition.

By allowing Daimler, already West Germany's biggest company, to take a majority stake in MBB, Haussmann overturned a ban on the deal imposed in April by the Federal Cartel Office.

"It is clear that the law against competition restrictions, the basic principle of our market economy... does not apply to big companies," SPD economic expert Wolfgang Roth told a separate news conference.

A Daimler spokesman declined to say whether the company would accept Haussmann's conditions. He said Daimler management board chairman Edvard Reuter would make a statement Monday.

Share analysts expect Daimler to pay more than one billion marks (\$300 million) for MBB. They said Daimler was likely to announce a capital rise Monday to finance the deal.

Daimler had previously said it would not accept any conditions, but share analysts said Haussmann's take-over formula was bound to have been worked out with Daimler in advance.

MBB said it was "certainly surprised by the extent of the intervention," especially at the ruling that it had to sell its guided missile and marine technology activities.

The take-over will give Daimler interests in all sectors of the defence industry ranging from missiles, radars, aero-engines, helicopters, fighters and transport planes.

"The merger with MBB will allow Daimler to emerge as a

major player in the defence and aerospace field," said Alexander Magana, an analyst at Banque Paribas in London.

Haussmann's Liberal Free Democracy (FDP) supported his decision despite initial opposition from some members who felt the merger went against the party's free market policies.

"On the whole his decision is balanced and justified. Whoever advises that the project should be forbidden must name alternatives. There is no alternative," a statement from FDP leader Otto Lambdorff said.

Haussmann said the main reason for the deal was Bonn's wish to cut state subsidies paid to loss-making European consortium Airbus Industrie in which MBB has a 38 per cent share.

"The general economic advantages of the deal and the public interest were in the forefront," Haussmann said. "The taxpayers' burden over Airbus will be reduced by up to five billion marks (\$2.5 billion)."

The main condition Haussmann imposed on the deal was that Daimler must take full responsibility for Airbus by the end of 1996 instead of in 1999 as originally planned.

MBB must also sell its 12.5 per cent stake in tank-maker Krauss-Maffei.

Neither MBB nor Daimler will be allowed representation on the boards of other companies in the defence sector.

Menem leads Argentina to recovery

Buenos Aires (R) — Argentina's monthly inflation rate plunged in August, raising hopes that after just two months in office President Carlos Menem has pushed his country back on the road to economic recovery.

"At last they (the authorities) are doing something. They are on the right track," a senior foreign banker said after official figures showed the rate of increase in the cost of living had tumbled to 37.9 per cent in August from a record 153.6 per cent in July.

"The government is on the right course and if it reduces its deficit and tightens its expenditures economic recovery could come as soon as January or February," independent economist Rodolfo Rossi said.

The austerity programme launched when Menem took office has won widespread support from

industry, farmers and bankers. It included an agreement on prices with industry and wage controls — reflected in the monthly inflation — stiff increases in utility charges and petrol prices and plans to privatise state companies and suspend subsidies for private enterprises in order to cut a massive fiscal deficit.

"If Menem fulfills all his promises we could be in for a real boom," said one businessman linked to the farm sector.

Menem, who led the Peronists to a landslide victory over former president Raúl Alfonsín's Radicals in an early election in May, has forecast inflation will fall to under 10 per cent in September and 15 per cent on an annual basis in 1990.

But officials are wary of declaring the battle won.

"Hyperinflation is still just around the corner," Economic Coordination Secretary Orlando Ferreyra said last week.

Alfonso's final months in office were characterised by rampant inflation, rising unemployment, exchange market instability, and soaring interest rates.

In June, driven by economic and social chaos, thousands of hungry slum-dwellers went on a rampage of supermarket looting in which 16 people were killed and hundreds were injured.

Menem's government weighed in the following month with its austerity package, winning a positive response from financial markets. Stock prices rose 60 per cent in the past two months. Interest rates tumbled and black market foreign exchange premiums for dollars have disappeared.

Businessmen have welcomed

plans to privatise the state telephone company, television stations, parts of the railway system and other loss-making public sector enterprises.

Ferreira said state spending cuts should save the equivalent of four per cent of gross domestic product next year while revamping taxes would swell public coffers by nine per cent.

Menem's economic programme is likely to win support from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and bring Argentina, which has paid virtually no interest on its \$60 billion foreign debt for 10 months, back to the international financial fold.

Economy Minister Nestor Rapanelli said last week he expected to sign with the IMF later this month a letter of intent which would set out agreed economic targets and policies.

Businessmen have welcomed

'Give banks tax breaks'

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposal to cut taxes for banks that reduce the debts owed to them by Third World countries has emerged from an international study.

Much of the \$1.3 trillion debt is owed to commercial banks.

Third World leaders complain that because of the payments they make, they are losing \$25 to \$30 billion a year to richer countries. They see the outflow as a major reason why their low living standards have been declining further through the 1980s.

European banks already get a tax advantage when they set aside reserves to meet prospective losses on Third World banks, said Stephany Griffith-Jones, a former senior official at the Central Bank of Chile. But she added that advantage gives them no incentive actually to reduce the debt.

"In fact I have heard, both in London and in Germany that some banks are apparently saying they don't want to take the Mexican deal because it would imply only 35 per cent debt reduction and they already (set aside reserves) for 50 per cent, so they would actually lose tax," she told reporters.

Griffith-Jones said the tax benefit should be withdrawn from banks that fail to join in debt reduction.

She was referring to the plan worked out in July by Mexico and creditor banks, under the proposal of U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady.

Grand total

4,291,616

8,318,095



Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activity at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Sept. 2, '89 and ending Wednesday Sept. 6, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinar).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Per value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	254050	419083	1.640	1.640	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	312	733	2.300	2.350	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	4526	6073	1.350	1.350	1.000
Housing Bank	8150	14735	1.800	1.830	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	150	345	2.300	2.300	1.000
Caro Amman Bank	2864	42038	14.800	14.700	5.000
Bank of Jordan	3690	714723	193.500	194.000	10.000
Arab Bank	23575	60127	2.530	2.530	1.000
Jordan National Bank	1299	3584	2.770	2.770	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Credit Corporation	21331	48933	2.390	2.390	1.000
National Financial Investments	16454	23070	1.510	1.550	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	26559	63469	2.390	2.400	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	—
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	—

Insurance and reinsurance

Middle East Insurance	279250	600187	2.500	2.110	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	7875	22728	2.880	2.880	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	3575	3920	1.230	1.170	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	2500	3770	1.520	1.520	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	5850	10075	1.720	1.710	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	19509	27890	1.410	1.420	1.000
General Arabic Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	12250	117663	1.000	1.050	1.000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000

Services and industries

General Investments	—	—	—	—	1.000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	317164	327157	1.080	1.040	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	8995	56586	0.640	0.630	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	92000	32810	0.370	0.350	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	34350	5496	0.650	0.660	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Telcoero	47778	16076	0.810	0.860	1.000

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1989

McEnroe wins another Grand Slam title

NEW YORK (AP) — John McEnroe won his first Grand Slam tennis title since 1984, sharing the men's doubles title at the U.S. Open with Mark Woodforde by defeating Ken Flach and Robert Seguso 6-4, 4-6, 6-3. McEnroe, a four-time Open singles champion, had won this tournament's doubles crown three times with Peter Fleming, his partner for a grand prix record 57 doubles titles. He joins John Newcombe as the only men in the open era to win this tournament's doubles crowns with different partners. The victory Friday was the 73rd doubles title for McEnroe and third with Woodforde, the 23-year-Australian who knocked him out of the U.S. Open singles competition last year.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES COHEN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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RESPECT THE LADY

Neither vulnerable, South deals.

NORTH	♦ Q 7 3
♥ Q J 7 2	♦ K 5 4
♦ 6 5 2	♦ 6 5 4
WEST	♦ A K 9 2
♦ 10 6 5 4	♦ 9 8
♦ J 8 3 2	♦ Q 10 9 7
SOUTH	♦ A K 8
♦ A K 3	♦ A 6
♦ A 5	♦ A K 9 7 3

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
3 NT	Pass	6 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Jack of ♦.

Some card combinations offer no choice—you can play them only one way. Others present interesting options, depending on what cards appear on the early tricks.

The bidding was short and accurate. South's opening bid of three no trump showed 25-27 points and a balanced hand, and North made the value bid.

West led the top of his spade sequence, and there was no doubt about what declarer had to do. Since he had nine winners outside of clubs, that suit had to be developed for three tricks. With eight cards in the suit, the expected break would be 3-2, and the normal way to take the suit would be to cash the ace, king and then give up a trick.

Had each defender followed with a low club when declarer cashed the king at trick two, that's exactly how he should have proceeded. But when West dropped the queen, a new tactic was called for. Declarer crossed to dummy and led a club toward his hand. When East produced the eight, declarer covered with the nine.

That was a perfect safety play. If West won the trick, that meant the suit was dividing 3-2 all along and the ace would pick up the outstanding club on the next round. But when West showed out and the nine won, declarer then had all the club tricks he needed to fulfill his contract.

We can't stress this point often enough: Pay attention to what cards your opponents play to every trick. Each one of them tells a story.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Having certain in your life is the result of long planned determination, and eliminating confusion that existed. Come to a meeting of the minds with associates and business partners.

ARIES: Listen to suggestions of your money associates where business problems are involved. Continue attempting to get more benefits from your usual activities.

TAURUS: Through a understanding friend you are able to advance your social activities. A short happy influence should prevail at your home, especially if you entertain there.

GEMINI: Go with influential friends that they recommend for your social pleasures. You can get information that will greatly add to your productivity.

MOON CHILDREN: Quietly following instructions of an important person is your way to get good results at work. Invite younger friends to recreations with members of your family.

LEO: You are about to have some changes in your routine activities so be on the alert. Get your business affairs in good order instead of yielding to temptations to go on a spending spree.

VIRGO: Go along more harmoniously with the desires of your business contacts. Returning to former happy days with your attachment rekindles your romance.

LIBRA: You need more facts

before proceeding with a business venture. Get some unusual gift that will delight your attachment.

SCORPIO: Don't be disengaged you are not getting business results more quickly. Join with several friends in a lesson in helping a charitable venture.

SAGITTARIUS: A delay which annoys you, in a business matter, will work out to your benefit. Put more comfort and colour than you have for your home.

CAPRICORN: Listen to progressive good advice and follow where it fits into your affairs. Take your attachment to interesting outside events.

AQUARIUS: If you can't take interesting trips with friends now make definite plans to take them in the future, but rely more upon an experienced companion where business or finances are concerned.

PISCES: Work activities should flow easily better than ever for you today. Getting money matters better organized at home will relieve everyone.

TODAY'S CHILD: If your child is born today it is more likely that he or she will find it difficult to learn average, everyday lessons with completely comprehending complex matters that require a great deal of study and analysis by others. They will be very selective in aquiring a mate and won't marry until later in life.

"The stars impel. They do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

MARADONA'S RETURN DELAYED AGAIN: A repentant Diego Maradona said on Friday it was unlikely he would be ready for Napoli's Italian league match on Sunday but that he could be available for his side's UEFA cup tie against sporting Lisbon next week. After a light workout lasting 40 minutes, Maradona told reporters he would not be on the substitutes' bench at Verona on Sunday but added "I don't rule out anything for Lisbon. It's certainly my intention to play as soon as possible, not least because I think that playing is the best form of training," he said.

THOUSANDS PAY TRIBUTE AT SCIREA: Fifteen thousand fans and dozens of Italy's top soccer personalities attended an emotional funeral on Friday for sporting hero Gaetano Scirea, killed in a car crash in Poland last weekend. Thousands of fans crammed against crash barriers outside a Turin church near Scirea's home and followed the service for the former Italian and Juventus captain on loudspeakers. His number six Juventus defender's shirt was placed in front of the flower-decked coffin inside the church. The service was attended by the Juventus team and many of Scirea's companions from the 1982 Italian side which won the World Cup. Scirea, 36, one of the most popular and successful players in Italian football, retired from competitive soccer in 1988 after winning 78 national caps in his 14-year career with Juventus.

FISA AWARDS CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1993, INDIANAPOLIS 1994 RACES: The International Rowing Federation (FISA) Friday voted to have Czechoslovakia host the world rowing championships in 1993, with Indianapolis the venue in 1994 and Tampere, Finland in 1995. The Czechoslovak town of Roudnice won 62 votes more than the Belgian city of Hasselt, the only other candidate for 1993. Voting on the 1984 venue went three rounds before Indianapolis beat out Tampere, which was led by Munich, West Germany.

SUDAN BEATS ALGERIA 1-0: A first-half goal by Ahmed Brash led the Sudanese champion Al Mourada to a 1-0 victory over Algeria's Mouloudia Oran Friday in the first leg of the African cup of champions quarterfinal. Brash's goal came in the 30th minute of the half. The Sudanese team had chances for two more goals late in the second half but missed both, a shot by Brash sailing just over the Algerian goal in the 42nd minute. Sudan's Al Mourada reached the cup of champions quarterfinals after beating the winners from Egypt and Kenya. The Algerians advanced with victories over the Tunisian and Libyan winners, the Libyan match by default after Libya withdrew.

CLUBS WON'T BE READMITTED UNLESS CONVICTED HOOLIGANS KEPT BACK: English clubs will not be readmitted to European soccer tournaments unless the government pledges to keep known hooligans from traveling to games abroad, a top European soccer official said Friday. Gerhard Aigner, general secretary of the Union of European Football Associations, said British government plans to restrain only those fans convicted for hooliganism after the ban on English clubs is lifted do not fulfill UEFA's conditions. Interviewed by the Zurich newspaper *Tagess-Anzeiger*, Aigner noted that UEFA's April decision to readmit the clubs in the 1990-91 season is conditional on the government's backing the application and pledging full observance of a European convention against violence, which stipulates control of traveling fans.

ENGLISH SOCCER GAME IN HOLLAND CALLED OFF: The English Football Association voted Friday to cancel a trip by the national soccer team to the Netherlands in December because of a fear of hooliganism. The decision came one day after the British government had asked the FA to call off the match and two days after English hooliganism re-emerged during a World Cup match in Sweden. The FA said members of its executive committee, who were canvassed by telephone, voted unanimously to call off the exhibition match set for Dec. 13 in Rotterdam.

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Campaigners clash over Johnson ban

By Andrew Warshaw
The Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain — Two of the most outspoken anti-doping campaigners in world track and field clashed Friday over the stiff penalties imposed on Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson for taking drugs.

World 800-metre record holder Sebastian Coe praised the sport's international governing body for stripping Johnson of his world records, titles and medals.

But professor Arnold Beckett, one of the pioneers of the campaign to rid track and field of drugs, said the punishments meted out retroactively to Johnson were unfair and illegal.

Johnson tested positive for anabolic steroids at last year's Seoul Olympic games, was stripped of his 100-metre gold medal and was suspended for two years.

Earlier this week, the International Amateur Athletic Federation's congress hit the Canadian runner even harder, taking away his world records, titles and medals as part of a sweeping crackdown on drug offenders.

Coe, a two-time Olympic 1,500-metre champion and a member of the International Olympic Committee's athletes commission, said Johnson deserved everything he got.

"The IAAF has to be right," said Coe, in Barcelona to compete for Britain in the World Cup that began Friday. "If you have a guy who knowingly breaks the rules... the views of the goodies cannot be upheld."

But Peckett, a member of the medical committee of both the IAAF and the IOC, said stripping Johnson of all his achievements was against the law.

"This may come as a surprise but I'm not in total agreement with some people over this," Beckett said. "You cannot act against natural justice. I am not a supporter of Johnson but I support natural justice."

Coe said Johnson's admission before a Canadian inquiry that he was taking drugs as far back as 1981 vindicated the IAAF.

"That covers the period he has been punished for," Coe said. "What he did goes against the rules, the ethics of sport and it's bloody cheating. You are either in the war or you are not."

Coe, who announces next week when he plans to retire, said he felt Johnson should have been banned for life.

"I think first-time offenders should be out completely," he

example of someone without consideration to the full consequences...

"In a situation where one man is forced to talk and nobody else is, it's not fair."

Beckett said the IAAF's decision earlier this week to introduce out-of-competition random testing was "a major step forward" in the war against drugs.

But he said he was pessimistic about eradicating the problem unless sportsmen and women were re-educated about the dangers.

"We all want to eliminate this evil," he said. "But unless we change the concept that you must use drugs to achieve success... I'm pessimistic that we can stop the chain."

Beckett said there were still loop-holes thwarting the anti-drug campaign, such as replacing steroids with naturally produced performance-enhancing substances not banned by the IOC or IAAF.

said. "But I know this is not a popular view within the IOC."

Speaking at a media symposium on doping, Beckett said Johnson was made a scapegoat by the IAAF, and an illegal one.

Johnson was facing an inquiry to give evidence," the veteran Briton said. "He confessed under a procedure in which perjury could have sent him to prison. Who else has been subject to the same conditions?"

Beckett said using the Johnson case as an example to other athletes was immoral.

"I'm not saying he was unfairly treated by the IOC but for the IAAF to punish him retrospectively when there was no rule in force at the time... It is not consistent with natural justice."

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"It is well known that people try to beat tests by replacing steroids with human growth hormone (HGH), which is not banned. Sport is going to be in an increasingly difficult situation if we rely solely on testing as a means of moving ahead."

He warned that even the most sophisticated testing could not for ever stay ahead of the drug-user.

"Testing will be increasingly eroded... in a few years, it will be overwhelmed by new things like human growth hormone-releasing synthetics coming on the market," Beckett said.

He said parents had a responsibility to teach their children that sport was clean and wholesome, not a means of instant financial success.

"We must change the image of sports and the attitudes of parents," Beckett said. "But how do you do it? We have only dealt with the tip of the iceberg so far."

"No-one is dealing with the iceberg itself."

American League Roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — The Baltimore Orioles found a way to keep up with the red-hot Toronto Blue Jays Thursday night. Win two while the Blue Jays were only winning one.

While the Blue Jays were beating Cleveland 12-4, the Orioles took a doubleheader from the Texas Rangers, 8-3 and 9-6, to make things tighter in the American League East race.

That moved the Orioles within 1½ games of the front-running Blue Jays in the sizzling East race.

Elsewhere, the Milwaukee Brewers beat the California Angels 7-1 and the New York Yankees edged the Seattle Mariners 6-4.

The Orioles did it the hard way, beating Nolan Ryan in the first game and then whipping the Rangers in the second game in the doubleheader at Texas.

They continued their mastery over the Rangers' ace right-hander, beating him for the third time in three meetings this season and the ninth straight time overall.

"They've hijacked my number," Ryan said. "It's aggravating. For some reason I haven't had good command of my pitches against them. They don't swing at bad pitches and in tight situations when I make good pitches, they foul them off. They've given me trouble all year and I don't know why."

The Rangers used a club-record 23 players, including six pitchers.

Blue Jays 12, Indians 4

George Bell hit a three-run double and Lloyd Moseby had three hits including a leadoff home run as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Cleveland Indians 12-4.

Toronto won its fourth straight and its ninth in the last 10, moving 15 games above .500 for the first time this year. The Blue Jays had led the American League East since Sept. 1 and are 66-39 since Cito Gaston replaced Jimy Williams as manager in May.

Brewers 7, Angels 1</

